

The Claims

The following listing of claims reflects the claims currently pending. No amendments to the claims are made herein.

1-40 (Canceled)

41. (Previously presented) A fusion protein comprising the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 53.

42. (Previously presented) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 53 linked to a suitable carrier.

43. (Previously presented) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 42 linked to a disulfide/amide-forming agent.

44. (Previously presented) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 42 linked to a thio-ether-forming agent.

45-51. (Canceled)

52. (Previously presented) An immunogenic composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 53.

53. (Previously presented) An immunogenic polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence motif Xaa-Thr-Xaa-Val-Thr-Gly-Gly-Xaa-Ala-Ala-Arg-Thr-Thr-Xaa-Gly-Xaa-Xaa-Ser-Leu-Phe-Xaa-Xaa-Gly-Xaa-Ser-Gln-Xaa-Ile-Gln-Leu-Ile (SEQ ID NO:8).

54. (Canceled)

55. (Previously presented) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 42, wherein the carrier is diphtheria toxoid.

56. (Previously presented) The immunogenic composition of claim 52, wherein the carrier is diphtheria toxoid.

57. (Canceled)